

PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES INC  
Form SC 13G/A  
January 10, 2011

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 3)\*

Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)

73640Q105  
(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2010  
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)  
 Rule 13d-1(c)  
 Rule 13d-1(d)

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)  
Capital Research Global Investors \*\*

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a)

3 SEC USE ONLY (b)

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

940,000

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

NUMBER OF  
SHARES  
BENEFICIAALLY OWNED BY

NONE

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

EACH  
REPORTING  
PERSON  
WITH:

940,000

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

NONE

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIAALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

940,000  
13d-4

Beneficial ownership disclaimed pursuant to Rule

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

5.5%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

IA

\*\* A division of Capital Research and Management Company (CRMC)

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

Schedule 13G  
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Amendment No. 3

- Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:  
Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.
- Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:  
120 Corporate Blvd., Ste 100  
Norfolk, VA 23502
- Item 2(a) Name of Person(s) Filing:  
Capital Research Global Investors
- Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none,  
Residence:  
333 South Hope Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90071
- Item 2(c) Citizenship: N/A
- Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:  
Common Stock
- Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:  
73640Q105
- Item 3 If this statement is filed pursuant to sections 240.13d-1(b)  
or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:  
(e)  An investment adviser in accordance with  
section 240.13d-1(b) (1) (ii) (E).
- Item 4 Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate  
number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer  
identified in Item 1.

- (a) Amount beneficially owned:  
(b) Percent of class:  
(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:  
(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:  
(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:  
(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:  
(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See page 2

Capital Research Global Investors is deemed to be the

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beneficial owner of 940,000 shares or 5.5% of the 17,061,914 shares of Common Stock believed to be outstanding as a result of CRMC acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

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- Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class. If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following: [ ]
- Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person: N/A
- Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person: N/A
- Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group: N/A
- Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group: N/A
- Item 10 Certification

By signing below, I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: January 7, 2011

Signature: Timothy D. Armour\*\*\*  
Name/Title: Timothy D. Armour - Senior Vice President  
Capital Research Global Investors

\*\*\*By /s/ James P. Ryan  
James P. Ryan  
Attorney-in-fact

Signed pursuant to a Power of Attorney dated December 29, 2010 included as an Exhibit to this Schedule 13G.

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POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned do hereby appoint James P. Ryan and Herbert Y. Poon, and each of them, acting singly, with full power of substitution, as the true and lawful attorney of the undersigned, to sign on behalf of the undersigned in respect of the ownership of equity securities deemed held by the undersigned, Capital Research Global Investors, AMCAP Fund, American High-Income Trust, American Mutual Fund, Inc., American Funds Insurance Series (Blue Chip Income and Growth Fund, Global Discovery Fund, Growth-Income Fund, Global Small Capitalization Fund, International Fund, International Growth and Income Fund), Capital Income Builder, Capital World Growth and Income Fund, Inc., EuroPacific Growth Fund, New World Fund, Inc., SMALLCAP World Fund, Inc., The Bond Fund of America, Inc., The Growth Fund of America, Inc., The Investment Company of America, The New Economy Fund, and Washington Mutual Investors Fund, and to be reported pursuant to Sections 13(d), 13(f) and 13(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and to execute joint filing agreements with respect to such filings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Power of Attorney has been executed as of  
th  
the 29 day of December, 2010.

Capital Research Global Investors      Washington Mutual  
Investors Fund

/s/ Timothy D. Armour  
Name: Timothy D.  
Armour  
Title: Senior Vice  
President

/s/ Jennifer L. Butler  
Name: Jennifer L.  
Butler  
Title: Secretary

AMCAP Fund  
American Mutual Fund,  
Inc.  
Capital Income Builder  
Capital World Growth and  
Income Fund, Inc.  
EuroPacific Growth Fund  
The Investment Company of  
America

The Growth Fund of  
America, Inc.  
SMALLCAP World Fund,  
Inc.  
  
/s/ Patrick F. Quan  
Name: Patrick F.  
Quan

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The New Economy Fund  
New World Fund, Inc.

Title: Secretary

American Funds Insurance  
Series

/s/ Vincent P. Corti  
Name: Vincent P.  
Corti  
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Title: Secretary

/s/ Steven I. Koszalka  
Name: Steven I.  
Koszalka  
Title: Secretary

American High-Income  
Trust  
The Bond Fund of America,  
Inc.

/s/ Courtney R. Taylor  
Name: Courtney R.  
Taylor  
Title: Secretary

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